

CHINA MAIL

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HOUSE OF LORDS Loan Agreement Debate Begins

LONDON, DEC. 18. A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY ASKED THE HOUSE OF LORDS FOR A QUICK APPROVAL OF THE \$1,400,000,000 AMERICAN LOAN TO BRITAIN AND OF THE BREITON WOODS WORLD BANK, WARNING THAT THE ALTERNATIVE WAS ECONOMIC CHAOS.

LORD PETHICK-LAWRENCE, MOVING THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE, SAID: "I REGRET THAT I AM NOT CONTINGENTLY AGAINST THIS AGREEMENT TO WHICH CAREFULLY BEFORE DOING SO WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCE OF ITS REJECTION."

R.A.F. Percy Trip To Hanoi

A DAKOTA OF THE 216th QUARTERMASTER DETACHMENT RETURNED TO KAT FAK YESTERDAY AFTER AN EXCURSION TO HANOI. THE MEANTIME LIFE OF DEATH IN A NAVAL OFFICER, LIVING CRITICALLY ILL THERE.

The aircraft, piloted by P. H. D. Percy, of the 216th Quarters, was on its way to Hanoi, where it was to deliver supplies to the British forces. The aircraft was on its way to Hanoi, where it was to deliver supplies to the British forces.

On the return journey, the R.A.F. Dakota brought back two families who sought refuge in French Indo-China when the Japanese overran the Colony. Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Cox and their four children and Mrs. R. O. Hill and her three children.

Mrs. Hill's husband, the late Mr. R. O. Hill, was before the Pacific War, Agent for the Messageries Maritimes in Hong Kong. After he was placed with his wife and children in an internment camp in Indo-China, he was arrested by the Japanese on charges of attempting to escape.

He was "tried" and executed.

VOLUNTEER MAINTENANCE TO CEASE

SINCE THE JAPANESE SURRENDERED, MEMBERS OF THE H.K.V.D.C. AND THEIR DEPENDENTS HAVE BEEN FED, CLOTHED AND, IN SOME CASES HOUSED, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ADMINISTRATION'S POLICY.

However, says an official statement issued yesterday, it is thought that a date might now be reasonably fixed after which they shall cease to draw upon public funds.

Mobilised volunteers have now had the benefit of five months' maintenance. On the expiry of their demobilisation leave, therefore, it is not proposed to grant them further support.

Maintenance of demobilised volunteers, who have been cured for since re-occupation of Hong Kong, will cease as from January 15, 1946.

There are at present vacancies in some offices of the Administration, and special consideration for employment will be given to Volunteers by all branches.

Mobilised personnel who were in P.O.W. Camps on 15.8.45 will parade at H.Q. to receive a further advance against arrears of pay as follows:—
Nursing Detachment:—Thurs., 20th Dec., 0930 hrs.
No. 5 Coy., No. 6 Coy., Field Ambulance:—Thurs., 20th Dec., 1000 hrs.
All Other Units:—Friday, 21st Dec., 1000 hrs.
Officers:—20th and 21st Dec., 1400 hrs.
Advances will be made according to notes posted at H.Q. and Company Notice Boards.

MILDER WEATHER PROMISED
Fair and cold early, bright period later, becoming slowly milder. Light north easterly to westerly winds.
Yesterday's temperatures:—
Maximum:—41 degrees at 3 p.m.
Minimum:—63 degrees at 7 a.m.

WARNED

Pure Fraud

Washington, Dec. 18. Senator Brooks, Republican of Illinois, today told the Senate that Britain cannot and will not repay the American loan just negotiated.

CHUNGKING READY FOR COALITION

CHUNGKING, DEC. 18. THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION, K. C. WU, DECLARED TODAY AS HIS "PERSONAL OPINION" THAT THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT WOULD AGREE TO A COALITION WITH THE COMMUNISTS PROVIDED THERE WERE NO INDEPENDENT ARMIES OR TERRITORIES IN CHINA.

We asserted the Communists wanted to retain their armies and obtain independent control over the Northern provinces where the peril of civil war is greatest.

The Minister declared that official quarters did not consider President Truman's statement on America's China policy in the light of a warning because the aims are identical with those of the National Government.

The President's declaration drew enthusiastic approval from Government leaders, generally, but public scepticism from the Communists whose representatives were calling on the Government delegates in preparation for the resumption of peace talks.

CONNALLY IN MINORITY OF ONE

WASHINGTON, DEC. 18. SENATOR ROBERT WAGNER, DEMOCRAT, OF NEW YORK, TOLD THE SENATE TODAY THAT PALESTINE PRESENTS A TEST OF WHETHER THE WORLD IS READY TO SUPPORT THE PRINCIPLES OF JUSTICE AND MORALITY AS A MEANS OF MAINTAINING PEACE.

WAGNER DECLARED THAT THE QUESTION OF JEWISH IMMIGRATION TO PALESTINE MIGHT APPEAR SMALL IN WORLD AFFAIRS BUT IS "TERRIBLY IMPORTANT" AS A TEST OF THE "INTEGRITY OF THE CONSCIENCE OF MANKIND" AND AS A "SIGN-POST OF WHERE THE WORLD IS GOING."

Wagner urged Senate approval of a resolution favouring the establishment of Palestine as a "democratic Commonwealth in which all men, regardless of race or creed, shall have equal rights."

The Senator said that both Britain and the United States had promised as much and asked: "If the great world powers profess themselves incompetent to deal honestly and fairly with a matter of this size what hope or faith can we have that they will rise to the enormously larger problems of the future?"

If small pressures such as the Arabian oil concessions are sufficient threats to divert Great Britain or the United States from a "course of honour, how pitifully inadequate is the state of our international morality," declared Wagner.

"Permanent peace" Wagner declared, "can rest only upon a foundation of external basis of morality. Permanent peace requires justice, truth and fair dealing toward the weak as well as the strong, toward the oppressed as well as the free, toward those who are homeless as well as those who are secure."

RESOLUTION PASSED
The Senate Foreign Relations Committee today called on the United States Government to use its offices with Britain toward opening Palestine to free entry of Jews.

The Senate passed the resolution by Senator Wagner, Democrat of New York, and Senator

Dubious About Warships for China

WASHINGTON, DEC. 18. SHAPERS OF THE CONGRESSIONAL NAVAL POLICY TODAY CAST A DUBIOUS EYE AT THE NAVY'S PROPOSAL TO TURN OVER EXCESS AMERICAN FIGHTING SHIPS TO THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

THE PROPOSAL ADVANCED BY NAVY SECRETARY JAMES FORRESTAL IN A LETTER TO SPEAKER RAYBURN, DEMOCRAT OF TEXAS, CAUGHT CONGRESS OFF GUARD.

"This is the first I have heard of it," Chairman Carl Vinson, Democrat of Georgia, of the House Naval Committee told reporters. "I am not saying anything until I know more about what they have in mind."

Vinson indicated he would be in no hurry to call the Navy's suggestion to the attention of his Committee.

"This is a complete surprise to me," said Representative Sheppard, Democrat of California, Chairman of the Appropriations sub-Committee handling naval funds. "I don't know anything about it and there are lots of things I want to know."

Another Congressman said privately: "This looks like a move in the direction of using the Navy to play world politics. Apparently we are to give away our surplus ships to strengthen the hand of Chiang Kai-shek in his fight with the Communists."

222 MAY BE LEFT
A member of the House pointed out that Forrestal had emphasised "excess in naval vessels of any type" which he proposed that President Truman be authorised to give, lend or sell would be earmarked for "the Republic of China."

A few months ago the Committee had reported that there would be a surplus of 222 major combat ships after the Navy's post-war needs are met.

"Among these are six battleships, four carriers and

seven cruisers," a Committee member said.

"Before we give them away or sell them we should be certain we don't need them ourselves and that there is no chance they will ever be used against us. There is no way of knowing whether China is capable of using such ships effectively. Certainly she can't operate them now."

SUGGESTS S. AMERICA
He suggested that friendly South American republics be given first choice of any surplus ships.

Navy Secretary Forrestal asked Congress to enact the legislation, which he said, would provide China with a navy to help maintain peace in the Pacific. He submitted the draft of a bill to authorise the transfer of surplus United States naval vessels to China and assignment of officers and enlisted men to aid China in establishing its navy.

No indication was given as to the number of nature of the surplus vessels to be involved. It was recalled that Japan destroyed what navy China had and as a result China has no navy nucleus on which to build.

Officers and men assigned to the Chinese navy would be entitled to such compensation and emoluments as the Chinese Government might provide in addition to full pay allowances and benefits or service in the American navy.

Forrestal said the proposed legislation would authorise that surplus ships could be given, sold, exchanged or transferred to China on any terms the President might deem proper.

Forrestal said the proposal conform with recent recommendations of the joint chiefs of staff and the State, War and Navy departments co-ordinating committee. He said also that the Navy Department had received advice from the White House on the subject.

Forrestal wrote to a congressional leader that "national interest as well as considerations of good conscience require that the United States give aid to the Republic of China by assisting that nation in maintaining a navy."

Citing destruction of China's ships by Japan, he said the nation had no industrial facilities or technical experience with which to rebuild. — Associated Press.

MACKENZIE KING URGES WORLD GOVERNMENT

OTTAWA, DEC. 18. THE CANADIAN PRIME MINISTER, MR. MACKENZIE KING, TOLD THE CANADIAN PARLIAMENT ON MONDAY THAT A FORM OF WORLD GOVERNMENT WITH THE VARIOUS NATIONS SURRENDERING SOME OF THEIR NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTIES IS THE ONLY SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEMS OF THE ATOMIC BOMB AND THE ATOMIC ERA.

"IT IS AN ERROR TO CONTEMPLATE CONTROL OF THE USE OF ATOMIC ENERGY IN COMMODITY TERMS AS IF THE ATOMIC ENERGY WERE SOME NEW AND DANGEROUS DRUG," MACKENZIE KING SAID, MAKING HIS FIRST REPORT TO THE COUNTRY ON THE ATOMIC DISCUSSIONS WITH MR. ATTLEE AND PRESIDENT TRUMAN A MONTH AGO.

"Technical and scientific controls of production, processing and final disposition are indispensable, but they are obviously inadequate. It would, I believe, be criminal folly to allow ourselves to imagine that the peace and solidarity of mankind can be attained by any scheme of commodity control," he continued.

Mr. Mackenzie King declared that the ultimate solution of the problems of the atomic age would be found only in the realm of philosophy and morals.

"They admit," he said, "of no mechanistic solution. By themselves devices for the control of atomic energy are at best but a temporary expedient."

Advocating some form of world government, he said the United Nations Organisation "is not a sufficient answer" although it might be regarded as a first step.

"With a limited surrender of national sovereignty there must be instituted some form of world government restricted at least to matters pertaining to the prevention of war and maintenance of international security."

"The coming of the atomic bomb has opened appalling possibilities which will face the world if the United Nations should fail to achieve effective cooperation." — Associated Press.

Abolition Of M.O.I.

LONDON, DEC. 18. BRITISH PRIME MINISTER CLEMENT ATTLEE TOLD THE HOUSE OF COMMONS YESTERDAY THAT THE GOVERNMENT PLANNED TO ABOLISH THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND THAT IT WOULD BE SUCCEEDED BY A NEW ORGANISATION.

Established during the war served as the fountain of information for practically all branches of the government.

Attlee said the government was considering maintaining the information services but on a "substantially reduced scale as compared with war time."

He said that the information services would continue abroad and would be under the general supervision of the Foreign Office. — Associated Press.

Singapore Strike

Singapore, Dec. 18. Eight thousand civil servants of the British Administration have gone on strike here over a demand for higher wages, bringing the total number of strikers in Singapore to 10,000.

Authorities said that essential services are not affected by the strike.

Japanese prisoners, organized in labour gangs, were assigned to many vacant jobs. — Associated Press.

Big Three Silent

Moscow, Dec. 18. The second session of the foreign ministers of Russia, Britain and the United States concluded last night after discussions lasted one hour and 40 minutes. The evening session terminated without issuance of any official statement on what occurred.

All sources maintained strict silence regarding the vital talks on global matters. The conferences are being held in Moscow's palatial Spiridonovka mansion. — Associated Press.

JOYCE APPEAL FAILS

London, Dec. 18. The appeal by William "Lord Haw Haw" Joyce, under sentence of death for high treason, was dismissed today by the House of Lords. Britain's court of last resort. Joyce was convicted of engaging in propaganda broadcasts for the Nazis. — Associated Press.

A Pleasure

Kansas City, Dec. 18. An application for the job of hanging General Yamashita was today air-mailed to General MacArthur by Milton Baker.

Baker was captured by the Japanese at Batavia in 1942 and became a prisoner in their hands for 3 years and 8 months. Associated Press.

Ex-P.O.W. Not Ab'e To Sit In Judgment

YOKOHAMA, DEC. 18. A MEMBER OF THE MILITARY COMMISSION BEGINNING THE TRIALS HERE OF NEARLY 400 JAPANESE CHARGED WITH MISTREATMENT OF PRISONERS WAS REMOVED TODAY ON DEFENCE PROTESTS THAT HE WAS UNABLE TO GIVE A FAIR VERDICT BECAUSE HE WAS FORMERLY A PRISONER OF THE JAPANESE.

He is Colonel John Ball, of Williamstown, Pa., who spent three years in a Japanese prison camp after participating in the "death march of Bataan."

Ball was challenged by Lieut. Colonel John Dickinson, chief defence counsel, on the ground that his experience as a prisoner would result in prejudice.

He replied that "generally," he believed he would be unprejudiced and said he felt the atrocities should be blamed on the individual but not on the Japanese as a group.

Despite his assertion, however, the Commission at a Chamber Session ruled that he should withdraw from the trial of Tsuburo Tsuchiya, first to be arraigned. — Associated Press.

U.S. WARSHIPS KNOCKED ABOUT IN GALE

LONDON, DEC. 18. TWO AMERICAN WARSHIPS, THE AIRCRAFT CARRIER WASP, AND THE CRUISER AUGUSTA, WERE DAMAGED IN A TERRIFIC GALE WHICH SWEEPED OVER THE MID-ATLANTIC AND BATTERED THE COAST OF ENGLAND YESTERDAY.

The Navy said the Wasp was en route to Southampton to pick up troops when it ran into the storm on Monday, and "the steel curtain of the hangar deck washed away."

The Augusta, en route to the United States from Britain with troops, had her starboard side crushed in one or two places. No casualties were reported from either ship. — Associated Press.

Chiang's Plans Secret

Chungking, Dec. 18. The Generalissimo may meet General George Marshall, new United States Ambassador to Chungking, in Shanghai, but not six people in China to-day know for sure.

When China's leader is travelling about the country he makes snap decisions usually at about two hours' notice—where he is going and when. Government ministers in Chungking have no clue where Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek will go from Peiping—but they all have their own guesses. — Reuters.

MAISONS TOLERES TO CLOSE IN PARIS!

Paris, Dec. 18. All licensed houses of prostitution in the Paris area will be closed within three months, and the city's registered prostitutes will be subject to strict control, the prefect of police Charles Luizot, announced at a Paris municipal council meeting on Monday.

Licensed houses number 178. Luizot, in whose hands the final decision rests, announced his plans after the council had spent the entire afternoon debating the question. The police official's decision followed a campaign waged by a women's council member who alleged she had been offered 1,000,000 francs if she would drop her campaign. — Associated Press.

GALLANT ACTION RECALLED

Sinking Of H.M.S. Peterel In Shanghai

Refusal To Strike To Enemy

SHANGHAI, DEC. 17.

THE FIRST INTIMATION MOST SHANGHAIERS HAD OF JAPAN'S ENTRY INTO THE WAR, FOUR YEARS AGO, WAS WHEN GUNFIRE WAS HEARD ON THE WHANGPOO RIVER, AND H.M.S. PETEREL, A TINY YANGTSE RIVER GUNBOAT WAS SET AFIRE AND SUNK.

AT ABOUT 11 P.M. ON DECEMBER 7, 1941, A LARGE JAPANESE GUNBOAT MOVED UP RIVER FROM HER MOORINGS AND TOOK UP POSITION OPPOSITE THE PETEREL, WITH HER DECKS CLEARED FOR ACTION. AT 3.15 A.M. DECEMBER 8, A JAPANESE BOARDING PARTY WENT TO THE PETEREL.

A Japanese officer went on board and, addressing the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant S. Polkinghorne, said he was "very sorry for the British" as Japan was at war with Britain, and he begged the surrender of the gunboat; otherwise she would be sunk.

Lieut. S. Polkinghorne replied that he would not surrender, and ordered the officer of the boat to immediately withdraw. When he got back into his boat, the Japanese fired a very pistol, which showed a red flare. The British officer realised that this signified "no surrender" and, considering how things had commenced, opened fire with her 4 inch guns, hitting the Peterel on fire.

The British gunboat kept firing her machine guns to the last, but sank at her moorings within a few minutes. There were three or four fatal casualties among her crew. The survivors jumped the bank of the river, where they were taken prisoner. The gunboat carried a crew of 24, including some Chinese.

BLOOD-STIRRING MEMORY.
The "North China Daily News" commenting on the fourth anniversary of this engagement, says:

"Ike" Says No In Eight Languages

LONDON, DEC. 18. A FRIENDLY DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN MR. CHURCHILL AND GENERAL EISENHOWER, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE ALLIED ARMIES IN THE INVASION OF EUROPE, WAS REVEALED TODAY IN AN ARTICLE BY CAPT. BAKER.

One "day late" in July, says Capt. Baker, Churchill visited General Eisenhower, "and for seven hours tried to persuade him to change his plan of battle. 'Ike' loved his friend but from the standpoint of military strategy and logistics could not agree on this point. Finally Churchill said he feared he would have to go to His Majesty the King and lay down the mantle of his high office. 'But the General—' to use one of his favourite expressions—'said 'no' in eight different languages.'"

Reuter.

Ramparts Tumbling Down In U.S.

(By John M. Hightower)

WASHINGTON, DEC. 17. THE RAMPARTS ARE TUMBLING DOWN AROUND THE CONTINENT OF NORTH AMERICA. IN FACT, YOU MIGHT SAY THEY HAVE ALREADY TUMBLER. A NEW CONCEPT IN AMERICAN DEFENSE IS GROWING UP.

IT IS BASED ON THE BELIEF THAT THE GEOGRAPHICAL REASONS FOR ISOLATIONISM AS A NATIONAL POLICY HAVE DISAPPEARED. THERE ISN'T ANY ISOLATION ANY MORE.

The new defense lines of the United States are on the mid-western Mississippi River or at Pittsburgh or Chicago—or St. Louis. If and when there is another war, President Truman is authority for that.

These are his words: "In any future war, the heart of the United States would be the enemy's first target. Our geographical security is now gone with the advent of the bomb, the rocket, aircraft carriers and modern airborne armies."

Fit this together with two pieces of information recently given Congress: 40 MILLION DEAD. A scientist who worked on the atom bomb said that in a single night's attack on this country 40,000,000 persons might be killed.

Gen. George C. Marshall said that victory over Hitler was possible because the British and Russian people refused to admit defeat.

The British and Russian people could stand up and fight back because they had time and space in which to recover from Hitler's terrible first blows and prepare for the counter-attack.

But what Mr. Truman now tells the American people is that if they are ever attacked they will not have time to recover. They must, in his opinion, be ready to fight on the instant, or else.

DOUBT TRUMAN. Some of the scientists who have estimated the full future powers of atomic bombs appear to doubt whether even Mr. Truman's analysis of the danger is revolutionary enough. Their argument is that in terms of destruction and death the United States can't afford to have a war, ready or not.

The advent of the atomic bomb, coupled with what has been disclosed about ultra-long-range rockets, has changed all that. By President Truman's own words it puts the heart of America into the front lines of the future—and lays it open to devastation on the push of a button thousands of miles away.—Associated Press.

BARBERS HAVE A GROUSE. Customers at the Parrot Hotel, Blackwood (Mon), on Friday evenings now call: "A pint and a haircut, please"—and get both.

Three ex-sergeants, recently demobilized, could not find work, and the licensee placed his bar at their disposal on Friday evenings so that customers could have their hair cut.

The ex-sergeants charge 6d. and are doing well, but local barbers, who demand 9d., are protesting.

Communist Upbroiding

Moscow, Dec. 18. The "Bolshevik" magazine of the central committee of the Communist Party, to-day criticises British policy in India, Egypt and other colonies, and the American capitalist's striving to carry out a wide colonial policy.

The colonial system "concentrates in itself much danger for general peace," it says, "and the Soviet Government cannot have an indifferent attitude to the question of distribution of territory under trusteeship and the establishment in them of regimes which should really assist the liberation of dependent people."

Discussing the question of international trusteeship the article asserts that the people of colonial countries have "the right to arrange their lives on a democratic basis."—Reuter.

Allotment Holders In The Dark

ALLOTMENT HOLDERS THROUGHOUT BRITAIN WILL NOT KNOW UNTIL FEBRUARY, 1946, WHETHER THEY ARE TO BE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE PRODUCING FOOD OR NOT.

The position is so indefinite, and so exasperating to holders who see themselves doing all the heavy winter work of digging and preparing the land, only to find themselves turned off at the moment of planting, that many of them are disinclined to carry on working on such terms.

"What we want," Mr. J. R. Heathfield, assistant secretary of the National Allotment Society, said, "is a clear statement from the Minister of Agriculture. 'Enthusiasm' among allotment holders is still as high as during the war. This is shown by the re-entrance felt by those who have already had notices to quit."

He showed a letter he had just received from an allotment holder which voiced the perturbation of 380 holders who had received notices.

"We remember the pleas of the Minister of Agriculture early in the war," they wrote, "and we are disgusted at our reward. It is a pity being taken where it is needed for erecting temporary houses, and where possible allotment holders are given other plots. This point is, however, that this is not often possible."

The 900,000 people producing their own vegetables before the war have now been reduced to a million and a half. London's 10,000 allotment holders will have to wait a couple of weeks to hear their fate. For all

RETURNING ALLIED PROPERTY

SHANGHAI, DEC. 7. THE INTERESTS OF ALLIED NATIONALS IN SHANGHAI ARE BEING ACTIVELY PURSUED BY THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT ALIEN PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION, WHICH IS CONCERNED WITH RECOVERING AND RETURNING PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT CONFISCATED BY THE JAPANESE DURING THEIR OCCUPATION.

A SPOKESMAN OF THE ALIEN PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION STATED RECENTLY THAT THE ORGANISATION WILL DO ITS UTMOST TO BRING ABOUT THE EARLY REPOSSESSION OF ALL ALLIED PROPERTY IN SHANGHAI.

It has already handed back to its British owners the Shanghai Dockyards and has given permission for the return of six Allied factories, all in good condition.

Arrangements are being made for the identification of the premises and equipment of other British and American enterprises, including the Imperial Chemical Industries, Shanghai Printing and Finishing Company, Jardine & Matheson, the Shell Oil Company, the Standard Vacuum Oil Company and the Texas Oil Company of China. Many major British business concerns have already repossessed their premises, including the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and the Mercantile Bank of India.

The Administration has also made arrangements with the Chinese Navy for the return of harbour craft seized by the Japanese. Altogether some 100 small vessels have been identified, of which about 40 are again in the hands of their owners. The others will be given back very shortly, it is stated.

ACCESS TO GODOWNS. Considerable progress has been made in the work of releasing Allied godowns to their owners. Since the end of the Pacific War British and American firms have been denied access to their godowns where Japanese goods are stored under seal. A checking process is now under way, after which the warehouses will again be available.

Whether proper ownership can be proved, and the location of property shown, the Alien Property Administration has undertaken to recover Allied property and has also promised to assist in tracing missing property.

Of widespread interest to British and American nationals, released from internment camps at the end of the war, is the recovery of their houses and apartments, and the efforts of the Administration have materially assisted many in resuming occupation.—Reuter.

TRIAL OF GERMANS

Essen, Dec. 18. The trial opened to-day of seven Germans accused of kicking to death two British airmen who baled out during a raid over Essen and of shooting a third—Reuter.

Seaforths Find Transmitter

BATAVIA, DEC. 18. SEAFORTH HIGHLANDERS FOUND AN ILLEGAL RADIO TRANSMITTER IN NORTH BATAVIA TO-DAY, SAYS AN OFFICIAL BRITISH COMMUNIQUE.

Ten Indonesians and a Chinese have been arrested for the murder of two Dutchmen. Punishers report a friendly reception at a village in east Batavia.

A mobile 40-mm. gun firing accurate tracer ammunition was strafed and silenced near Sourabaya.

Around Medan, in north Sumatra, a party searching for a missing Indian soldier met opposition from road blocks and had two men wounded.—Reuter.



COMING TO LEE THEATRE

THE BRIDE CAME C.O.D.

Auchinleck Divorce

Lower, Sussex, Dec. 17. General Sir Claude Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief in India, was granted a decree nisi against his wife, Lady Jessie Auchinleck, at the Sussex Assizes here to-day and was awarded costs against the co-respondent. Air Chief Marshal Sir Richard Edmund Peirse. The case was undefended. The case for Sir Claude was that his wife became friendly with the co-respondent then serving as R.A.F. Commander-in-Chief in India, with whom Sir Claude was also friendly, and that Lady Auchinleck stayed at a Brighton hotel with Sir Richard after their return from India.—Reuter.

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SAILING TO SWATOW AND SHANGHAI C.N. Co. S.S. "PAKHOI" ... 22nd December, 1946.

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C.N. Co. S.S. "WOJANG" 24th December, 1946.

C.N. Co. S.S. "NINGHAI" ... 28th December, 1946.

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GEN. WILCOX'S APPOINTMENT CHALLENGED

London, Dec. 18. Major W. Wyatt (Lab, Birmingham) asked the Under-Secretary for India in the House of Commons to-day why in view of Government's intention to Indianize the Indian Army, the recently appointed chairman of the reconstruction committee of the defence services in India was a British officer general and not an Indian Army officer.

Mr. Arthur Henderson replied that General Wilcox, who had had wide experience of Indian conditions, was selected by the Commander-in-Chief as the best available officer for the appointment in question.

Major Wyatt said nearly all higher appointments in India had been given to British service officers and not to officers in the Indian Army.

Mr. Henderson promised to look into the matter but as regards this particular appointment said he was satisfied that the Commander-in-Chief took the view that General Wilcox was the best officer for this particular work.—Reuter.

Refuses Big Offer

Mr. Christopher Lynch, a Lime-lick-born tenor, has just declined an offer to go to America for £250 a week.

His rise to fame has been meteoric. A few years ago he was almost unknown. Then he got his big chance, and at once attracted the attention of experts on the look-out for a promising young Irish vocalist.

Since that time he has sung his way to fame, helped and encouraged by Count McCormack, who foresees a great future for him.

GOING TO ITALY

The offer Mr. Lynch has now declined came from Clark H. Gots, Inc., Waldorf Astoria, New York, who invited him to star in a dramatization of the life of Thomas Moore, the Irish music composer.

Mr. Lynch rejected it because he has made his mind to go to Italy and perfect his voice before appearing on any international stage. He leaves for Rome next month.

BATAVIA INCIDENT

Batavia, Dec. 18. An Allied military court has started full investigation of an incident in the home of Dr. Harifuddin on Saturday when a number of Dutch troops are alleged

to have entered his house and forced him at the point of a gun to give them Red Cross supplies.—Reuter.

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NOTICE

FORMER B.A.A.G. CIVILIAN STAFF

SUBJECT: STAFF COMPULSORY SAVINGS SCHEME

1. Compensation for loss incurred by staff due to appreciation of C.N. Currency will be paid to all those who were still contributors when the above scheme was cancelled.

2. Compensation must be claimed before 12.00 hrs on 28th Dec. 1945 after which time and date no further payments will be made.

3. Payments will be made at Room 310, 3rd Floor, Hong Kong & Shanghai Bank Building on working days between the following hours:

10.00 hrs - 12.30 hrs
14.00 hrs - 17.00 hrs

Colonel L. T. RIDE,
Commandant, B.A.A.G.

BRITISH MILITARY ADMINISTRATION, HONG KONG
PROCLAMATION NO. 4

DELEGATION OF POWERS
(AMENDMENT)

ARTICLE 3

REGULATION NO. 1, FORCE CONTROL

NOTICE

In exercise of the powers vested in me by paragraph 2 of the above-mentioned Regulation, I, ALEXANDER BURGESS, Colonel, Civil Affairs, Supplies, Transport & Industry, DO HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that the Schedule to the above-mentioned Regulation contained in a Notice made under the same Regulation on the 3rd day of December, 1945, is hereby amended by the deletion of the following item:

"PEANUT OIL \$1.60 per catty"

GIVEN under my hand at HONG KONG this 18th day of December, 1945.

A. BURGESS,
Colonel (C.A.)

Supplies, Transport & Industry

BRITISH MILITARY ADMINISTRATION, HONG KONG

WORKS BRANCH CIVIL AFFAIRS

Water Supply

NOTICE

The public is hereby warned that on no account should money be paid to any employee of the Waterworks Department.

Accounts for any sums due will be issued from the office of the Water Authority in St. George's Building and the money must be paid into the Treasury at 1, Des Voeux Road Central.

Any person who is asked for money by any Waterworks employee should report the matter immediately to the Water Authority.

Every workman sent to carry out work at consumer premises is provided with an Authorisation Order which he should be asked to produce.

J. FORBES, Lt. Col.
WATER AUTHORITY.

NOTICE

EVERETT STEAMSHIP CORP.

GENERAL AGENTS

AMERICAN MAIL LINE

Announce the reopening of their offices at their former location, Queen's Building, 1st floor, Rooms 101-103, No. 1 Ice House Street.

H. E. CASE,
Manager.

Tel. 28469-28208.

R.A.F. PLAYERS ENJOY MACMO TRIP

"WE HAD A MAGNIFICENT TIME. THE HOSPITALITY OF THE PEOPLE OF MACAO, THE POLICE AND THE MACAO FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION WAS MARVELOUS AND BEYOND PRAISE," SAID WING-COM-MANDER CONNELLY, WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF THE ROYAL AIR FORCE FOOTBALL TEAM WHICH VISITED MACAO DURING THE WEEK-END.

The R.A.F. team left on Friday and returned yesterday. The first game played on Saturday was against Combined Macao and resulted in an easy

win for the airmen by three clear goals. Dawn and Stokes (two) were the goal-scorers.

On Sunday, the visitors drew with Police, two all, in an evenly contested game. The R.A.F. goals were scored by Dawn and Stokes. The hospitality and entertainment of the Macao Football Association on Saturday night had its effect on some of the players who were not able to give their best, but the team did well.

The third game against one of the Portuguese gunboats was not played owing to bad weather. His Excellency the Governor of Macao, Commander Gabriel Monteiro Teixeira was not able to attend the games owing to his position, but his daughter looked off at the first game and was also present at the other.

Mr. J. F. Reeves, British Consul, was an interested spectator at both games and an honored guest at all the functions.

Two banquets were given the Royal Air Force, the first by Macao Football Association and the other by the Police.

SHANGHAI EXPECTATION The following is from a Shanghai newspaper:

Lovers of football have a pleasant surprise in store for them as it is possible that an R.A.F. eleven will pay a flying visit here in the near future.

Two R.A.F. teams, boasting of seven professional players, recently played and defeated a Hong Kong Chinese side captained by that old general of football, Lee Wai-tung, by 3-2.

At present, it is said that they are in Macao where several games have been arranged for them. It was learned that this R.A.F. team would like to come to Shanghai and play some of the local sides.

The report that the Shanghai Athletic Federation will soon sponsor football and that such top teams like the Jao Lien, Tung Hwa and Lee Nien may be allowed to participate in future should enhance the chance of the R.A.F. team to play in Shanghai.

The standard of football in Shanghai has deteriorated considerably in the past few years, but there are still enough players to select a team that would give any visiting side a hard fight.

The officer in charge of the R.A.F. football team here said last night that he had not heard of the visit and was unable to confirm the above report.

REPRODUCTION OFFICE
19 12 45

BRITISH MILITARY ADMINISTRATION, HONG KONG
FINANCE BRANCH
(Currency & Banking Section)

SAFE DEPOSIT BOXES WITH BANKS:
Bank of Canton, Ltd.
Bank of East Asia, Ltd.
Chase Bank.

Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.
National Commercial & Savings Bank, Ltd.
Wing On Bank, Ltd.
Yuen Yieh Bank.

With a view to making Boxes available again for normal safe deposit transactions, holders of such boxes in the above Banks are notified that arrangements are now being made to examine the contents. The Public are warned, however, that a large number of the boxes have been forcibly opened by the Japanese.

Application forms, obtainable at the Banks concerned, should be completed and forwarded to Mr. A. Ritchie, Currency and Banking Section, Finance Branch, 2nd Floor, Mercantile Bank Building, 7, Queen's Road Central, on or before THURSDAY, 27TH DECEMBER, 1945.

The dates to be fixed for opening the boxes will be advertised later and box holders will be required to attend personally with their keys.

C. G. S. FOLLOWS,
Chief Financial Adviser.
Civil Affairs.
Hong Kong, 19th December, 1945.

The Roof Garden

The Hongkong Hotel Roof Garden, the Colony's most popular rendezvous in pre-war days, will be reopened on Saturday and European and Chinese meals will be available from 11 a.m. to midnight. Both the Hongkong Hotel and the Peninsula Hotels are holding Christmas Eve and New Year Eve dinner dances this year. Special ferry services will be available every 40 minutes from 7 p.m. to 2.30 a.m. on each day. It is understood that tea dances will be resumed in the new year.

Col. Rowell's Talk To Rotary

A TOUR OF THE VARIOUS PLACES IN THE WEST INDIES FORMED THE SUBJECT OF AN INTERESTING TALK BY COL. T. R. ROWELL AT THE Tiffin of the HONG KONG ROTARY CLUB HELD AT THE OFFICERS' CLUB YESTERDAY.

Dr. Arthur Woo, who was before the war president of the Club, presided at yesterday's meeting. Visiting rotarians introduced were Messrs K. P. Chow, A. Russell, George She and Mr. E. F. Duckworth.

Col. Rowell said that two pleasant things happened to him in 1944. One was that he was appointed to a committee to go to the West Indies and the other was the invitation to join the Hong Kong Planning Unit in August of the same year.

Speaking of the racial background of the Indies, Col. Rowell said it was formed of African negroes and East Indian indentured labour. The former were freed in 1833, costing Britain \$20,000,000 in doing so. Indentured labour was abolished in 1919. Those people of African origin, the speaker said, were far more advanced, socially, educationally and politically than the East Indians.

On his visit to Trinidad, the speaker had a funny anecdote to recall. On a highway, called the Churchill-Roosevelt Highway, one of many roads built by the Americans, a negro was caught exceeding the speed limit of 40 m.p.h. When told he would be charged, the negro replied: "You can't do this, boss. I'm on the Churchill side of the road not on the Roosevelt." And he was let off.

The English there, he said, was very poor, but two expressions he liked were "I hadn't could" to express surprise at something, and "the telephone needs you."

Other places visited by Col. Rowell were British Guiana, Puerto Rico, Jamaica and Barbados. In British Guiana he saw one of the largest wooden houses in the world—the cathedral there. Puerto Rico, the speaker found, was rather Un-American and very much like a British colony. The university was well endowed by American funds but taxes were mostly derived from levies on rum, fines from the criminal courts and estates on which no wills were left.

In conclusion, Col. Rowell said that wherever he went in the West Indies he found a deep sense of loyalty to Britain.

The speaker was thanked by Col. E. J. R. Mitchell.

NEW OFFICERS The minutes of the first meeting were read by Lieut. Col. R. P. Morris, Secretary. The following officers have been elected to carry on for the time being:

President: Dr. Arthur Woo; Secretary: Lieut. Col. R. P. Morris; Programme Secretary: Lieut. Col. E. J. R. Mitchell; Hon. Treasurer: B. C. Field.

LEE THEATRE

TO-DAY & TO-MORROW
At 2.30, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.
WALLACE BERRY
IN
"WEST POINT OF THE AIR"

An M.C.M. Picture

CATHA

THEATRE—2.30, 7.15, 9.15 Show
M.C.M. Presents Judy Garland
"LIT T O M LIP KELLY"
Also NEWSREELS
Occupation of Japan
Paris Exhibition
In Technicolor

Softball League Opening

(By "ONLOOKER")

The curtain goes up on Sunday for the Hong Kong Softball League, for the "Tai Sing Victory Day Cup" and the "Major Thursday Cup", when the opening games will be staged on the Club de Recreio ground at 9.30 a.m. sharp. Enthusiasm is high both among players and the public, and a mammoth crowd is expected to line the ground when the American Consul-General officially declares the League open by tossing the first ball in the first game which will see the Cyclones clash with the Way Poong Portuguese Association, followed by Chung Hwa and H.K. Baseball Club.

Taking on the "tricky" Way Poong, Captain Barney Abbas will see to it that no "cocksureness" or "showmanship" will be allowed to creep into the Cyclone squad. The Cyclone is a real peppery outfit and should come out well on top. Unhappy will be "Doc" Molten (late), Robbins and "Lefty" Moosdeen at the bases.

"Doc" Molten will have plenty to say when his "Colony All Stars" boys of the H.K. Baseball Club meet the Chung Hwa. The Chung Hwa boys, however, are almost in a class of their own on the Softball diamond and have the edge on the Baseballers. Robbins will be calling 'em with Nip Lum, and "Lefty" Moosdeen at the bases.

The line-up of the teams will be selected from the following:

Way Poong Portuguese Association: M. G. P. Souza (Manager), Bertie Gosano, Gerry Gosano, J. A. Soares, Sunny Brown, E. Rosario, A. J. Goncalves, L. A. Luz, E. G. Silva, A. G. Guterres, H. G. Hyndman, D. M. Rodrigues, H. A. Silva, M. A. Rozario, F. A. Vieira, V. A. Ribeiro and M. Xavier.

Chung Hwa Baseball Club (Capt.): Bill Kwan (P), Tommy Chan (1b), Bill Hong Sing (2b), Hockjai Kitchell (3b), Wally Ching (SS), T. F. Choi (S.F.), "Showboat" Ali (L.F.), Chang (C.F.), Nelson Mar of Junior Mar (R.F.).

H.K. Baseball Club: "Doc" Molten (Manager), David "Bambino" Leonard, Tony Alves, Leo Tavares, "Beefy" Silva, "Capone" Runjohn, "Jindoo" Hussain, Nick Beltrio, Arturo Ozorio, Abel Ozorio, H. A. Barros, Spuddy Motta, Sherry Bucks, "Baby" Abbas, Jackie Noronha, Rene Sequera, A. A. Gosano, "Doc" Gosano and Z. Gosano.

Cyclones: A. R. Markar (Manager), Barney Abbas (Captain), "Coffee" Baker, "Skelly" Kazack, Zaman Abbas, "Modest" Khan, "Powerhouse" Khan, Erickson, A. Almeida, P. Remedios, M. A. Wahab, A. Kadir, E. Yusuf, K. Nazarin, R. A. "Superman" Bay, A. Azevedo, R. Hartman, A. K. Hartman, E. Silva and G. Blore.

Score: Philco Remedios.

KING'S

SHOWING TO-DAY
AT 12.30, 2.30, 5.10,
7.15 & 9.15 P.M.
EXTRA PERFORMANCES
TO-DAY & TO-MORROW
at 12.30 p.m.

LATEST CHINESE WAR NEWSREELS

THE COMPLETE SURRENDER OF JAPAN
In Chinese Dialogues

NEXT CHANGE
MARGARET LOCKWOOD
PERRYLL CALVERT
JAMES MASON
In
"THE MAN IN GREY"

PRESENTED BY EAGLE-LION DISTRIBUTORS

ORIENTAL

3 SHOWS: 2.30—7.15 9.15
— Commencing To-Day —
A FULL PROGRAMME OF
"LATEST WAR NEWSREELS"

Composing of:
Japanese surrender in Hong Kong.
Britain on trial.
Production of the Atomic Bomb.
B. I. to Mr. Churchill.
Surrender in Manila and Hangzhou.
Occupation of Tokyo.
Three Power Conference in China.
The Ton Ton Bomb.
Advance on the Rhine.
Surrender in the "Ar Reg".
THRILL UPON THRILL
ACTION AND EXCITEMENT

SHOWING TO-DAY

QUEEN'S THEATRE

AT 2.30, 5.10, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.

Tel. 81403

GARY COOPER, FRANCHOT TONE

in

"THE LIV'S OF A BENGAL LANCER"

A Paramount Picture

Out numbered.....never out-fought.....In a swooping spectacle of sensational action!

Also LATEST NEWSREELS

DUKE OF WINDSOR VISIT TO BRITAIN AFTER 9 YEARS' ABSENCE.....LORD LOUIS MOUNTBATTEN'S INSPECTION TOUR OF OCCUPATION TROOP IN MALAYA.....UNITED NATIONS' CONFERENCE FOR PEACE.....ETC.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE

SHOWING TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.00, 7.00 & 9.00 P.M.

TOGETHER AGAIN!

JEANETTE MACDONALD

NELSON RIDDY

IN NOFL COWARD'S

"BITTER SWEET"

IN TECHNICOLOR

AN M.G.M. MUSICAL

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL SERVICE ENTERTAINMENT

ENSA

presents

"LAUGH AWHILE"

Once Nightly At 7.30 p.m.

Monday December 17th Saturday, December 22nd Incl.

NAAFI CANTEN CLUB, HOWL X N

"JOCK & TED"

PLAYING ALL WEEK TO H.M. SHIPS

"JIVE SESSION"

PLAYING ALL WEEK TO R.A.F. UNITS

All Services—All Ranks—Admission Free.

Each Serviceman may bring one Civilian Guest.

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X'MAS CAKES
MINOR PIES

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OPPOSITE QUEEN'S THEATRE Tel. 24008.

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PRICE VERY MODERATE

23, Hennessy Road, Wanchoh

(Follow the arrow)

NAAFI/EFI OFFICERS CLUB

PENINSULA HOTEL KOWLOON

From Wednesday, 19th December onwards.

DINNER DANCE

Nightly from 8 p.m.—11 p.m.

\$3.00

Tables may be booked in advance

But must be taken up by 8.15 p.m.

SOVIET GIVES 'EM JITTERS

Small European Nations Backing United Nations

But Will Not Have Bloc System

LONDON, Dec. 17. ANY DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS TO FORM A POLITICAL BLOC, EMBRACING THE SMALLER NATIONS IN WESTERN EUROPE WOULD APPEAR TO BE FOREDOOMED TO FAILURE IF THE PRESENT FRAME OF MIND IN THE SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES CAN BE CONSIDERED IN ANY WAY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CONTINENT AS A WHOLE.

THE "NEW YORK TIMES" LONDON CORRESPONDENT HAS JUST COMPLETED A TOUR OF NORWAY, SWEDEN, FINLAND AND DENMARK, IN WHICH HE INTERVIEWED THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE FOUR COUNTRIES.

Stalin Back

LONDON, Dec. 18. Stalin has returned to Moscow from his visit to the four Scandinavian countries. He is expected to return to Moscow on Monday.

Fight Over Powers Of President

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18. The House is expected to have a heated debate today over the President's power to deal with the United Nations Organization. This controversial subject is the main issue in a bill providing for participation by the United States in the Organization.

Chairman Bloom, New York Democrat, said he didn't know who would lead the fight but he expected attempts to limit the President's powers.

He predicted any such effort would be voted down just as they were when the House adopted the original measure on December 4.

The bill now before the House would authorize the President to impose sanctions on aggressor nations and use American troops assigned to the United Nations Security Council against aggressors without specific permission from Congress.

Execution Fan Attends His Last Days

IN THE DAYS WHEN CZECHOSLOVAKIA WAS A NAZI PROTECTORATE, KURT BLASKOVITZ, ACTED AS PROSECUTOR FOR THE GERMANS.

The Czechs called him the "execution fan" because of his invariable practice of watching the shooting or hanging of persons whose conviction he obtained.

Now he has met his own end in the same way, tried as a war criminal and condemned by the People's Court at Prague.

JOAN CRAWFORD SEPARATING

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 18. Joan Crawford and her husband Philip Terry have separated and she said she probably would institute divorce proceedings, she added that they had decided only on Sunday to separate.

"We simply haven't been getting along and that's all there is to say," she told a reporter.

She was married previously to Douglas Fairbanks Junior and Franchot Tone. — Associated Press.

CANTON'S BUSES The Canton Municipal Council is inviting fresh tenders for the city's bus service franchise for the coming year, and conditions have been modified. The royalty is now reduced to C\$80,000 per bus, and the official fare is fixed at C\$50.

There will be seven bus routes, the number of buses operating to be about 90 as at present.

Tenders are to be submitted by December 24.

CANTON DISAPPOINTED Canton's hope of elevation to the status of a special municipality is not to be realized, at least for the present, for an edict has now been received from the Executive Yuan, Chungking, that the city is to remain under the jurisdiction of the Provincial Government of Kwangtung.

In each case he was told that the respective governments looked with distaste, fear and trepidation on any scheme for forming a geographical coalition. In no case was the reason stated with any unvarnished bluntness, but the atmosphere made it more than evident that the reason was the fear of the Soviet Union.

The idea of some form of a Western bloc has been rejected in Washington, London and Paris for some time, except for the French capital in purely official circles.

The Scandinavian countries, like other European little powers, are putting all their eggs in one basket, the United Nations Organization.

IN SOUP ANYWAY It would seem that the one would be "in the soup" any way and there is no use trying to work out alternative schemes, since they would be regarded as provocative by Moscow.

The feared demonstration of such schemes as a Western bloc or Atlantic bloc or Scandinavian bloc by the Soviet press and radio, are listened to in every Scandinavian capital.

Although in each country concerned the government representatives expressed sincere admiration for the Soviet Union, in each case there was a nervous undercurrent of anxiety.

HOUSE OF LORDS WARNED

(Continued from page 1) Government's case in the Lords expected to be aided chiefly by the presence of Lord Keynes, Britain's chief negotiator in Washington, who arrived at Southampton yesterday. A car was waiting at the quay-side for him and immediately he stepped ashore he was driven away to London.

Lord Keynes will speak today giving a first-hand account of the loan negotiations.

Viscount Simon (National Liberal) said the conditions of the loan filled him with anger but the loan could not be rejected because it was essential.

CRINGING POLICY In last night's debate, Lord Woolton, former Food Minister, who said he spoke for no party but for the trading community, accused the Government of a "cringing policy of appeasement" and of being afraid of America and the decisions of Congress.

He supported the Bretton Woods proposals but not the loan. He asked the Government what they had to fear that the British Empire might not support them if they refused upon the "economic fastnesses" of the Empire. He suggested that the Americans ought to return unconditionally those securities that Britain was compelled to deposit with them in 1940 when she paid cash on the barrel head to build munitions and factories in America.

AFRAID TO STRIKE Lord Balfour (Conservative) said America had got to learn to import far more than she had. She must never be allowed to forget it.

Lord Strabolgi (Labour) thought the Conservative Party were eager to wound but afraid to strike. Later when things were difficult economically in Britain they would want to say they were not responsible. He asked the peers to imagine the effect the rejection of these proposals would have on the present conference of foreign ministers in Moscow.

Lord Pakenham (Labour economist and once personal assistant to Sir William Beveridge) speaking of Empire preferences and the forthcoming negotiations on tariffs said that if there was agreement, the only weapon Britain would discard would be the weapon of bullying other countries. — Reuter.

U.S. SAILOR ROBBED

An American sailor, Frank Montgomery, lost or had been stolen from him, a wallet containing \$25, an identification card and a library card near the King's Theatre at about 3.40 p.m. yesterday.

THE GREAT COMB-OUT

LONDON, Dec. 17. A secret operational plan, to follow up Friday's great police comb out in the Central London area, was put into action throughout the country by a combined force of civil and military police yesterday to apprehend criminals and delinquents believed to be hiding in the London suburbs and provincial towns. — Reuter.

GENERAL MOTORS DEMAND PENALTIES

DETROIT, Dec. 18. General Motors Corporation today demanded of the C.I.O. United Auto Workers that "appropriate penalties" be provided against employees participating in work stoppages that violate contract provisions.

The demand was contained in a letter to the Union listing over a dozen stipulations which the Corporation said must be included in the collective bargaining agreement with the Union.

The management directed this in a letter yesterday as the discussion of the new contract proposal was resumed. — Associated Press.

Azerbaijan Rising Not Spontaneous

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18. UNITED STATES OFFICIALS TODAY EXPRESSED THE OPINION THAT THE UPRIISING WHICH LED TO THE CREATION OF THE AUTONOMOUS REGIME IN AZERBAIJAN WAS INSPIRED AND NOT SPONTANEOUS.

OFFICIALS SAID THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT ATTRIBUTED THE TROUBLES IN NORTHERN IRAN TO THE PRESENCE OF RUSSIAN OCCUPATION TROOPS.

The Iranian Ambassador, Hussein Ali, has requested the United States to register a vigorous protest with Moscow.

After his visit to Acting Secretary of State Dean Acheson, Ali told reporters that the Russians had deliberately engineered the establishment of the Azerbaijan State. — Associated Press.

OFFICER'S REPORT

TEHRAN, Dec. 17. Officers of the garrison in Tabriz, capital of Azerbaijan Province, which surrendered on Saturday last, to the Democrats, and Colonel Homayun, Chief of the Tabriz Gendarmerie, arrived in Tehran today and reported to General Headquarters.

It is stated that one of the officers said: "Resistance in Tabriz would have been impossible and stupid."

The Persian barracks, with its garrison of nine hundred men, were surrounded by Russian troops with machine-guns and by Democrats also armed with machine-guns, who occupied the roofs of all houses around. So a surrender agreement was signed.

"All the officers and most of the men left the barracks secretly some taking their arms and hiding in the neighbourhood."

"The Democrat Government afterwards issued a manifesto which states that the surrender agreement had been violated by the officers and men of the Persian Army in Tabriz by leaving the barracks with their arms, contrary to the agreement."

"An amnesty would be granted on condition that the soldiers and officers would stay in the barracks and turn in their arms to the new Government," the officer added. — Reuter.

RUSSIANS BLAMED

TEHRAN, Dec. 18. Tabriz, capital of the Azerbaijan Province, is reported to be entirely in the hands of the insurgent forces which the Iranian general-officer asserted overpowered the small Central Government garrison with the help of restrictive measures imposed by the Russian occupation troops.

The General said the Russians confiscated the side-arms of Iranian officers, and restricted the Government garrison to their barracks. He added: "The well armed democratic party—insurgent—forced occupied the higher

THEFT OF BALANCE

LEUNG KAM HUNG, 48, unemployed, was charged before Nigal yesterday at Kowloon with the theft of a spring balance, the property of the Supply Depot, 55th Indian Com., R.I.A.S.C., in Yon Chow St. Shamshuipo. Accused said that he bought it without knowing it to be stolen property. He was however unable to produce a witness in evidence. He was fined \$75.

SIX MONTHS TO DISARM JAPS

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 18. BRIG-GEN. MERRITT A. EDSON, A MARINE RAIDER COMMANDER IN MANY PACIFIC BATTLES, ESTIMATED TODAY IT WOULD TAKE ABOUT SIX MONTHS MORE TO DISARM REMAINING JAPANESE TROOPS IN CHINA AND SHIP THEM HOME.

The general has just completed an inspection of all marine supply installations in China, Japan and elsewhere in the Pacific. He arrived here by airplane en route to Washington to become senior marine officer in the office of the Chief of Naval Operations.

Edson said some Japanese units were being used under American command to keep communications lines open in North China.

He also reported the marines are closing out all their Pacific bases except those at Hawaii and Guam. The Guam base will be a major one, supplying marines in China, Japan and throughout the western Pacific.

PU YI TO BE HANDED OVER

CHUNGKING, Dec. 18. The newspaper "Ta Kung Pao" in a dispatch from Changchun said that the Russians had agreed to hand over Henry Pu Yi, erstwhile puppet Emperor of Manchukuo.

Pu Yi was seized by the Russians shortly after they invaded Manchuria and was reported to have been taken to Moscow. — Associated Press.

Yamashita Gets Respite Till New Year

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18. THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT GRANTED A STAY OF EXECUTION ON MONDAY TO JAPANESE GENERAL YAMASHITA, WHO WAS SENTENCED TO DEATH BY A MILITARY COMMISSION IN MANILA FOR THE MURDERS AND ATROCITIES COMMITTED BY HIS TROOPS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

The tribunal acted after discussion in conference after leaving the courtroom at the completion of its regular session.

Only a few minutes before the scheduled portion from Yamashita had arrived, asking for a review of the decision by the Philippine Supreme Court.

Secretary of War Patterson earlier had ordered the sentence to be stayed pending a final decision by the Supreme Court. The Philippines court overruled Yamashita's contention that the military commission was irregular and that the Philippine civil court should take jurisdiction.

The U.S. Supreme Court adjourned until January 2 and it is not expected that decision on Yamashita's petition will be announced before that date. — Associated Press.

BETWEEN U.S. AND THE SOVIET

LONDON, Dec. 18. In an article today, the London "Times" diplomatic correspondent expressed the opinion that the Russian proposal for an Allied Control Council to handle Japan is mainly an issue between the Soviet Union and the United States.

At the moment, he added, British policy is expected to be directed to a true representation for India and Australia in whatever body eventually is devised for the supervision of Japan. — Associated Press.

Buck - Passing Game Charged

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 18. THE "ST. LOUIS POST" IN AN EDITORIAL TODAY CRITICIZED THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR WHAT IT TERMED LACK OF AMERICAN EXPERTS IN JAPAN TO FOLLOW THROUGH ON THE DIRECTIVES HANDED TO THE NIPPONESE GOVERNMENT BY GENERAL MACARTHUR.

THE NEWSPAPER, MENTIONING THE RECENT DIRECTIVES DESIGNED TO PULL DOWN THE STRUCTURE OF FEUDAL JAPANESE MILITARISM SAID: "UNFORTUNATELY IT IS FAR SIMPLER TO DESIGN GRAND STRATEGY THAN TO SEE IT IS CARRIED OUT POINT BY POINT, ISSUE BY ISSUE."

"At the moment the decision was made to use the existing Japanese Government instead of the American military government, a second decision should have been made and followed by swift action to recruit economic and political experts in the United States to report on the speed and effectiveness with which the directives are being followed and to make recommendations on future policy."

The "Post" said that General MacArthur's staff was not equipped to study results of the directives and added: "Yet, according to reports from Tokyo as well as Washington the need for expert help in these matters of civilian administrators has become a buck-passing game, with the State Department clearly shrinking its responsibility to follow through on policy."

General MacArthur is not and does not pretend to be a revolutionary. Men around him are of a conservative military caste that take orders literally without judging the political results. They represent American military strength but they have not the ingenuity needed to change the entire Japanese society and economy from ways of authoritarianism. It is the business of the State Department

NO VISA FOR ISAACS

CHUNGKING, Dec. 18. The Minister of Information, Mr. K. C. Wu, told newsmen today that he had recommended the Foreign Ministry to grant the application of Darrel Berriagan, of the "New York Post" for a visa to enter China but that the ban against Harold Isaacs of the "New Yorker" magazine remained in effect.

Wu said that the visa application by Edgar Snow, associate editor of the "Saturday Evening Post" was still under consideration. — Associated Press.

GRANT TO UNRRA

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18. The Senate has completed the Congressional action authorizing a U.S.\$1,350,000,000 fund for the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Commission. The measure goes now to the White House for the President's signature. — Associated Press.

Hitler's Mass Murder Plan

NUERNBERG, DEC. 18. THE AMERICAN PROSECUTION IN THE WAR CRIMES TRIAL OF 21 LEADING NAZIS LISTED ON MONDAY A CATALOGUE OF NAZI OUTRAGES IN AN ENDEAVOR TO CONVICT THE 600,000 "LITTLE NAZIS" WHO COMPRISED THE PARTY LEADERSHIP. THE PRESIDING JUDGE, HOWEVER, RAISED DOUBTS AS TO HOW LOW IN THE PYRAMIDAL POLITICAL HIERARCHY THE GUILT DESCENDED.

In what is regarded as the most difficult legal phase of the trial, U.S. Counsel Col. Robert C. Storey adduced evidence to show the responsibility of the Nazi leadership as a whole for plotted misdeeds ranging from Jewish pogroms to the murder of captured Allied airmen.

Twice Storey was halted by questions from the British judge, Lord Justice Geoffrey Lawrence. When he quoted a letter from missing Reichsfuehrer Bormann, which purported to merge the Nazi catechism with the revised Ten Commandments, the presiding judge asked what they had to do with block letters, the small Nazis who each ruled 40 to 60 households on behalf of the party.

Colonel Storey pointed out that Bormann's letter said the catechism problem should be discussed by the remainder of the Reichsfuehrers Counsel added: "There were 16 directors of the party and five or six of them sit here. We cannot prove at this stage that all of them who exerted leadership knew about it. We are trying to select different crimes at different stages, which occurred within the party."

NOT PARTY AFFAIR Again, when the prosecutor referred to a police teletype message from Himmler's headquarters, Lord Justice Lawrence asked what connection that had with the leadership and Colonel Storey reiterated that Himmler was a Reichsfuehrer as well as head of the police, and his letters went to other members of the leadership corps. The presiding judge remarked that it seemed to him a police and not a party affair. He smiled but shook his head as the prosecution took up another topic.

MASS MURDER PLAN German plans for systematic mass starvation in Russia, which would have virtually wiped out the cities of Moscow and Stalingrad if they had been captured, were alleged by the American prosecutors. They said German documents disclosed the coldly calculated mass annihilation scheme.

The prosecution alleged the plan was drafted by Goering's economic ministry in 1941. The Nazi master planners were quoted as having stated: "We see no reason for feeding the Russian people," and insisting the Hague convention rules for treatment of captured peoples "are not applicable to the Soviet Union." — Associated Press.

SHINTO DIRECTIVE PROBLEM

WASHINGTON, DEC. 18. THE "WASHINGTON STAR" IN AN EDITORIAL TODAY ON GENERAL MACARTHUR'S DIRECTIVE REGARDING JAPANESE SHINTOISM SAID: "IT REPRESENTS AN ATTEMPT TO DEAL WITH A PROBLEM AS INHERENTLY DIFFICULT AS IT IS ILL-UNDERSTOOD BY THE WORLD AT LARGE."

The newspaper defined Shintoism as a "primitive cult" deliberately exalted into an ideological instrument of linguistic militarism with the goal of world-wide domination by a master race ruled by God Emperors divinely predestined to universal authority.

The editorial added: "While general MacArthur plans to dis-establishment of Shinto from its status as official cult of Japan. The aim is to place it on an equal footing with Buddhism and Christianity which have been exempted from taxation but rely on the support of their adherents."

"There will be no attempt to close Shinto shrines or interfere with ancestor worship as such. Just what will be done regarding the adoration of the Emperor and his exaltation as a descendant of Sun Goddess with its political connotations is not clear. It may be assumed that the absurdity of the whole God-Emperor, Yamato race and divinely predestined to world domination concept will automatically impress Japanese consciousness by hard realities of defeat and subjection to foreign control over a long period." — Associated Press.

Rebel Island Overrun

SAIGON, DEC. 18. A REBEL STRONGHOLD ON AN ISLAND FROM WHICH TERRORIST RAIDS ON FRENCH, BRITISH AND INDIAN TROOPS HAVE ORIGINATED NORTH OF GOVAP HAS BEEN SWEEPED BY INDIAN TROOPS, ACCORDING TO AN OFFICIAL ANGLO-FRENCH STATEMENT.

Casualties were inflicted on the armed rebels who offered resistance, and more than 400 suspects have been arrested. Materials captured included grenades, ammunition, a printing press, a wireless transmitting station and three heavy machine-guns.

The French armored second division and the ninth colonial infantry division, with naval support, have carried out an operation between Plaine des Jones and Phnom Penh road. A main rebel stronghold was attacked from several directions. — Associated Press.

RADIO

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19th 1945. STUDIO - R.A.F. SINGERS.

ZBW HONGKONG broadcasting on a frequency of 640 Kilocycles and from 12.30 to 1.00 p.m., 6.55 to 7.50 p.m. and 9.00 to 11.00 p.m. also on 5.52 Megacycles.

B.K.T. 12.30 p.m. - Daily Programme Sunday.

12.30 p.m. - Film Selections.
1.00 p.m. - News & announcements.
1.10 p.m. - Piano Solos by Alfred Cortot.
1.30 p.m. - Andre Kostelanetz & His Orchestra with Gracie Moore (Soprano).
2.00 p.m. - Close Down.
6.50 p.m. - Some De co Music.
7.00 p.m. - London Relay - News.
7.15 p.m. - Orchestra "Symphony".
7.30 p.m. - Studio - R.A.F. Singers.
8.00 p.m. - "Orchestral Request Hour".
9.00 p.m. - London Relay - News.
9.05 p.m. - "M de Time" - R.N.A.
9.20 p.m. - Tomakowsky - "Aurora".
9.30 p.m. - Ballet Music.
10.00 p.m. - Orchestral Selections.
10.15 p.m. - Verdis "Aida" - Act II.
11.00 p.m. - Close Down.

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